

Reciprocity Guidelines

How to Become a Certified Emergency Medical Technician in South Carolina

Updated - September 2008

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Introduction

For the purpose of these guidelines, the term Emergency Medical Technical (EMT) is inclusive of all levels of certified EMTs in South Carolina. At the present time, South Carolina recognizes three levels of EMT certification:

EMT - Basic	(Emergency Medical Technician)
EMT - Intermediate 85	(Advanced Emergency Medical Technician)
EMT - Paramedic	(Paramedic)

Certification as an EMT - First Responder (Emergency Medical Responder) is not currently recognized as a certified level in South Carolina and does not fall under South Carolina Laws and Regulations pertaining to EMS.

In order to gain certification as an EMT (Basic, Intermediate, Paramedic) in South Carolina, you must meet the following requirements:

1. You hold a current certification as an EMT (Basic, Intermediate, Paramedic) in any US state or US territory
- OR -
You hold a current National Registry Credential as an EMT (Basic, Intermediate, Paramedic)
2. You hold a current CPR credential.
3. In addition to the above, Paramedics must also hold a current ACLS credential.

For the purposes of EMT certification, South Carolina does not recognize Aon-line@ courses such as e-ACLS, etc.

The word Acurrent@ means that the credential must not be expired and must have a minimum of six months remaining after all required documentation has been received and the candidate is approved to receive a South Carolina EMT certification

Provisional Certification

Individuals who are not Nationally Registered and who otherwise satisfy all reciprocity requirements, will qualify for a SC AProvisional@ Certification which will expire on the day of their Aout-of-state@ EMT credential or up to one year, whichever is less. During their provisional certification period, they will be required to obtain a National Registry credential to renew their SC state EMT certification.

Obtaining EMT Certification in South Carolina

All persons desiring certification as an EMT in South Carolina must file a formal reciprocity application with all required documentation.

EMT Basic - (Emergency Medical Technician)

1. Complete the Reciprocity Application found on page 09 (Please print clearly - or type)
2. Include with that application a copy of your current EMT credential (current National Registry Credential or a current EMT certification from another US state* or territory) for the level of certification you are requesting. Your state or NR credential must indicate that you are certified or licensed as an EMT-Basic. (Emergency Medical Technician is acceptable).

*For individuals who are not Nationally Registered; please complete the AOut-of-State Verification@ form on page 08. Mail that form to the state or territory EMS office who credentialed you. They will complete this form and they will mail or fax this form back to SC.

3. Include with that application, documentation of training in Endotracheal Intubation (ET) and IV Maintenance (Cannot provide documentation? - See page 06). Any one of the following types of documentation is acceptable.
 - A) A letter from the training institution, on letterhead, and signed by the program director which includes the following information:
 - 1) The name of the candidate who took the training
 - 2) Date(s) of the training
 - 3) Name of the certified instructor who conducted the training
 - 4) The type of training (Must Aspecifically@ say AEndotracheal Intubation@ and/or AIV Maintenance@)
 - B) A copy of the course syllabus or outline. (Must Aspecifically@ use the words AEndotracheal Intubation@ and/or AIV Maintenance@)
4. Include with that application a copy of your current CPR credential. A copy of the card is required. Currently, South Carolina only accepts the following CPR (Provider or Instructor) credentials for the purpose of EMT certification:
 - American Heart Association (AHA) BLS for the Healthcare Provider
 - American Red Cross (ARC) CPR for the Professional Rescuer
 - American Safety & Health Institute (ASHI) CPR Pro

After all requirements for EMT-Basic reciprocity have been satisfied, the individual will be sent a *Certificate Application Card* and must return this (White) card, properly completed and signed prior to receiving a SC EMT certification. For those individuals who are not Nationally Registered, (See Provisional Certification on page 02).

EMT Intermediate - (Advanced Emergency Medical Technician)

1. Complete the Reciprocity Application found on page 09. (Please print clearly - or type)
2. Include with that application a copy of your current EMT credential (current National Registry Credential or a current EMT certification from another US state* or territory) at the level of certification you are requesting. Your state or NR credential must indicate that you are certified or licensed as an Intermediate. (Intermediate 85, Intermediate 99, or Advanced Emergency Medical Technician is acceptable).

*For individuals who are not Nationally Registered; please complete the AOut-of-State Verification@ form on page 08. Mail that form to the state or territory EMS office who credentialed you. They will complete this form and they will mail or fax this form back to SC.

3. Include with that application, documentation of training in Endotracheal Intubation (ET) and Intraosseous Infusion (IO) - (Cannot provide documentation? - See page 06) Any one of the following types of documentation is acceptable.

A) A letter from the training institution, on letterhead, and signed by the program director which includes the following information:

- 1) The name of the candidate who took the training
- 2) Date(s) of the training
- 3) Name of the certified instructor who conducted the training
- 4) The type of training (Must Aspecifically@ say AEndotracheal Intubation@ and/or AIntraosseous Infusion@)

B) A copy of the course syllabus or outline. (Must Aspecifically@ use the words AEndotracheal Intubation@ and/or AIntraosseous Infusion@)

4. Include with that application a copy of your current CPR credential. A copy of the card is required. Currently, South Carolina only accepts the following CPR (Provider or Instructor) credentials for the purpose of EMT certification:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| - American Heart Association | (AHA) BLS for the Healthcare Provider |
| - American Red Cross | (ARC) CPR for the Professional Rescuer |
| - American Safety & Health Institute | (ASHI) CPR Pro |

After all requirements for EMT-Intermediate reciprocity have been satisfied, the individual will be sent a *Certificate Application Card* and must return this (green) card, properly completed and signed prior to receiving a SC EMT certification. For those individuals who are not Nationally Registered, (See Provisional Certification on page 02).

EMT Paramedic - (Paramedic)

1. Complete the Reciprocity Application found on page 09. (Please print clearly - or type)
2. Include with that application a copy of your current EMT credential (current National Registry Credential or a current EMT certification from another US state* or territory) at the level of certification you are requesting. Your state or NR credential must indicate that you are certified or licensed as a Paramedic.

*For individuals who are not Nationally Registered; please complete the AOut-of-State Verification@ form on page 08. Mail that form to the state or territory EMS office who credentialed you. They will complete this form and they will mail or fax this form back to SC.

3. Include with that application a copy of your current CPR credential. A copy of the card is required. Currently, South Carolina only accepts the following CPR (Provider or Instructor) credentials for the purpose of EMT certification:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| - American Heart Association | (AHA) BLS for the Healthcare Provider |
| - American Red Cross | (ARC) CPR for the Professional Rescuer |
| - American Safety & Health Institute | (ASHI) CPR Pro |

4. Include with that application a copy of your current ACLS credential. A copy of the card is required. South Carolina does not recognize on-line courses such as the Ae-*ACLS*@ course. Currently, South Carolina only accepts the following ACLS (Provider or Instructor) credentials for the purpose of EMT certification:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| - American Heart Association | (AHA) Advanced Cardiac Life Support |
| - American Safety & Health Institute | (ASHI) Advanced Cardiac Life Support |

After all requirements for EMT-Paramedic reciprocity have been satisfied, the individual will be sent a *Certificate Application Card* and must return this (blue) card, properly completed and signed prior to receiving a SC EMT certification.

For those individuals who are not Nationally Registered, (See Provisional Certification on page 02).

Additional Training Needed

Individuals applying for reciprocity in South Carolina who cannot provide documentation of the additional training requirements may receive permission to gain that training in South Carolina. To receive permission to gain the additional required training in South Carolina - check the *Additional Training Needed@* block on the Reciprocity Application on page 09.

Refresher Course

Individuals who possess a National Registry credential or EMT certification in another US state or territory may request permission to enter a South Carolina EMT refresher course. Individuals who qualify to receive permission to enter a South Carolina EMT refresher course must meet one of the following requirements:

1. You are in the last year of your state EMT certification:

Check the Refresher Course Needed block on the Reciprocity Application form on page 09.

After successful completion of the course, the candidate must successfully pass the appropriate SC Astate*and/or National Registry certification examination and have a properly completed and signed *Certificate Application* (white, green, or blue) *Card* (which is provided during the course) prior to receiving a SC state EMT certification. *For those who are not Nationally Registered - See Provisional Certification on page 02.

2. You are in the last year of your National Registry EMT credential and need to complete a refresher course for National Registry Re-registration requirements:

Check the *Refresher Course Requested@* block on the Reciprocity Application form on page 09

3. You have failed the National Registry Written (Computer-Based) examination three times:

A) Check the *Refresher Course Requested@* block on the Reciprocity Application form on page 09.

B) Enclose a copy of your initial EMT course completion certificate.

Registered Nurses

Registered Nurses may qualify to enter a SC EMT refresher course. The following information must be submitted:

Nurses: (Registered Nurses Only - Other Nursing Credentials, i.e.LPN, etc., are not acceptable)

1. Complete the Reciprocity Application found on page 09. (Please print clearly - or type)
2. Include with that application a copy of your Registered Nurse license.
3. Include a resume which details critical care experience (i.e. Emergency Room, ICU, CCU, etc.)
4. Prior to being certified in South Carolina, the candidate must also possess a current BLS & ACLS credential. A copy of the card(s) is(are) required

Currently, South Carolina only accepts the following CPR (Provider or Instructor) credentials for the purpose of EMT certification:

- American Heart Association (AHA) BLS for the Healthcare Provider
- American Red Cross (ARC) CPR for the Professional Rescuer
- American Safety & Health Institute (ASHI) CPR Pro

In addition to the above, Paramedics must also have a current ACLS credential. Currently, South Carolina only accepts the following ACLS (Provider or Instructor) credentials for the purpose of EMT certification:

- American Heart Association (AHA) Advanced Cardiac Life Support
- American Safety & Health Institute (ASHI) Advanced Cardiac Life Support

For the purposes of EMT certification, South Carolina does not recognize Aon-line@ courses such as e-ACLS, etc.

Upon receipt of the above documentation, the candidate will be sent a letter of permission to enter a SC refresher course of any level (Basic, Intermediate or Paramedic).

After successful completion of the course, the candidate must successfully pass the appropriate SC Astate@ certification examination and have a properly completed and signed *Certificate Application* (white, green, or blue) *Card* (which is provided during the course) prior to receiving a Aprovisional@ SC state EMT certification, (See Provisional Certification on page 02).

Out-Of-State Reciprocity Verification Form

South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control Division of EMS & Trauma

Section I: To be completed by the candidate

Name: _____ SSN: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City / State / Zip Code _____

Phone Number(s) _____

Certification Number _____ Level of Certification _____

Section II: To be completed by the state certification agency

*The above individual has applied for reciprocity in **South Carolina**. Please complete the following and either **fax** the form to (803-545-4989 attn: EMS Division) -OR- mail to SC DHEC EMS Division, 2600 Bull Street, Columbia, SC 29201.*

1) Indicate **current** certification level of candidate: _____

2) Candidates certificate expiration date: _____

3) If the candidate (**Basic or Intermediate**) received initial of refresher training in your state, please indicate all the following which applies:

EMT-Basic

- [] Trained in IV Maintenance
[] Trained in Endotracheal Intubation

EMT-Intermediate

- [] Trained in Endotracheal Intubation
[] Trained in Intraosseous Infusion

4) Has this candidate ever had his/her certification revoked or suspended? _____
(If **Yes** attach details.)

5) Has this candidate ever been convicted of a felony? [] Yes, [] No, [] Unknown
(If **Yes** attach details.)

6) Was this candidate's certification issued based on reciprocity from another state?

If **Yes**, Which state: _____ When: _____

7) Any reason why this candidate should **Not** be granted reciprocity? _____
(If **Yes** attach details.)

Name (Print) of **state** official completing form

Title

Your State

Signature of **state** official completing form

Telephone Number

Reciprocity Application

PLEASE DO NOT FOLD OR BEND

Name (**Print or Type**) _____ Date _____

Mailing Address: _____

City / State / Zip Code: _____

Day Phone: (_____) _____ - _____ SSN: _____ - _____ - _____

(CHECK ONLY **ONE** LEVEL) - BE SURE TO ENCLOSE ALL REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

- ☐ EMT-Basic* Include copy of NR and/or Out-of-State Certification + CPR Card and proof of ET & IV Maintenance Training - or - check the Additional Training Needed block
- ☐ Additional Training Needed
- ☐ Refresher Course Requested

- ☐ EMT-Intermediate* Include copy of NR and/or Out-of-State Certification + CPR Card and proof of ET & IO Training - or - check the Additional Training Needed block
- ☐ Additional Training Needed
- ☐ Refresher Course Requested

- ☐ EMT- Paramedic* Include copy of NR and/or Out-of-State Certification + CPR Card + ACLS card
- ☐ Refresher Course Requested

- ☐ Registered Nurse - (For permission to take a Basic, Intermediate or Paramedic refresher course)
- Include a copy of your RN License, Plus a resume that details critical care experience, Plus a CPR credential & an ACLS credential

You **MUST be (or have been) certified (Out-Of-State -or- Nationally Registered) at the same level of reciprocity you are requesting. Application packets **MUST** contain ALL required documentation. Incomplete packets will be returned.*

I verify all the information is correct to the best of my knowledge. I have enclosed all required documentation necessary for the level of refresher training or reciprocity that I seek. I understand that my request will not be processed until a completed application packet is received by the state ems office.

Signature of candidate

Date

Mail or fax the completed application with ALL DOCUMENTATION to: **SC DHEC, EMS Division, 2600 Bull Street, Columbia, SC 29201** (Fax to 803-545-4989)